

Circular No.: EIAC /CB/01/2026

DATE: 14 September 2026

Transition to ISO/IEC 17024:2026

To: Certification bodies operating certification of persons (ISO/IEC 17024)

Greetings from Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC)

This is for the information of all certification bodies operating certification of persons according to ISO/IEC 17024 that Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI) has defined the transition requirements in a technical document “**TRANSITION REQUIREMENTS FOR ISO/IEC 17024:2026- Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-03-31 (M). Version. 1.0**”. This is a mandatory document to be followed by all Global ACI MRA signatory Accreditation Bodies (ABs) and accredited certification bodies operating certification of persons (CBs).

In compliance with the subject document, the Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC) has defined the following timeline.

1. EIAC shall start using ISO/IEC 17024:2026 for all initial accreditations from December 2026. New applications shall be accepted accordingly for new version ISO/IEC 17024:2026. New certification bodies can still apply according to the old version ISO/IEC 17024:2012. EIAC shall not accept any new application according to old version after 31 March 2027.
2. EIAC shall complete the transition of all accredited CBs no later than 31 March 2029.
3. All accredited certification bodies operating certification of persons are required to send the following to EIAC **before 31 December 2027**:
 - i) Transition plan to address the following:
 - a) Identify the changes between new and old versions. Typical processes considered for changes can include competence management and communication. Analysis impact of changes on relevant activities/processes and identify required actions to ensure conformance (e.g., management system/documents. IT tools.
 - b) Training of relevant personnel affected by the changes are competent for the revised version and transition process. Personnel may include, but not be limited to, examiners, invigilators, reviewers of examination outcome, certification decision makers, application reviewers, scheme reviewers, planners.
 - c) Information of CB's necessary actions for their certified clients.
 - ii) Evidence of implementation of Transition plan (above mentioned points a, b, c).



- iii) Filled and signed Declaration (Declaration form is attached with this circular).
4. CB may use ISO/IEC 17024:2026 for all initial and recertifications after receiving transition accreditation decision from EIAC. CB shall define transition requirements for existing certified clients based on the scheme requirements.
5. CB must use ISO/IEC 17024:2026 only, for all clients for initial and recertification no later than 31 March 2029.
6. CBs cannot offer any new certifications under old version; ISO/IEC 17024:2012 after the completion of the transition.
7. Any accredited CB does not intend to transition to the new revision, the CB shall inform the EIAC as early as possible, and the CB shall have its accreditation withdrawn at the end of the transition period (or at the expiry of its current accreditation certificate if its current accreditation expires before 31 March 2028). In this case the CB shall inform the affected certified persons about this decision as early as possible so the certified clients can choose another CB at appropriate time.
8. The EIAC shall issue the revised accreditation certificate to certification body after positive transition decision.

If you have any queries in this regard, please contact Engr. Muhammad Shahid Rasool
(Mohammad.Shahid@eiac.gov.ae).

We wish you all the best.

Abdulla Mohammed Al Marzooqi

Director of Certification Bodies Accreditation Department

Attachments:

- i) Declaration (to be sent to EIAC before 31 December 2027)
- ii) Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-03-31 (M). Version. 1.0 (for information and implementation)